

The Early Republic:
Forging a National Identity

Unit Outline

The Elite and the Masses: Hamilton and Jefferson's Competing Visions for the Republic

Supplement: Hamilton and Jefferson on Popular Rule

Supplement: Jefferson, "The Importance of Agriculture"

Supplement: Hamilton, "Report on the Subject of Manufactures"

What were Hamilton and Jefferson's competing economic and political visions for the American republic?

Identifications:

republicanism, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Federalists, Republicans (Jeffersonians), tyranny, anarchy

Homework Questions:

1. Why was the debate about how to address the president such a self-defining moment for the United States?
2. What were Hamilton and Jefferson's different views about what types of individuals should govern society?
3. Why did Hamilton favor a commercial and industrial model for the U.S. economy? Why did Jefferson favor an agrarian model?
4. How do Jefferson's and Hamilton's respective views of representation reflect differing interpretations of republicanism?